

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 07674 051244Z

46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 AID-20 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

RSR-01 /120 W

----- 130153

R 050906Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6400

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, RP

SUB: DETENTION OF CEBU UNIONISTS

1. ASSOCIATED LABOR UNION (ALU) SECGEN SENO TOLD CONSULATE/CEBU AND AAFLI/MANILA THAT EIGHT ALU PEOPLE HAVE BEEN DETAINED BY PHILIPPINE CONSTABULARY (PC) ON NONSPECIFIED CHARGES AND EIGHT OTHERS "SOUGHT." SENO PRESUMES THEIR ARREST RELATED TO CRIMINAL CHARGES ARISING FROM 1970 VIOLENT PICKETLINE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN ALU AND RIVAL LABOR ORGANIZATION SPONSORED BY FORMER CEBU CONGRESSMAN DURANO.

2. LABATT DISCUSSED ABOVE WITH LABOR UNDER SECRETARY INCIONG JULY 5. INCIONG NOTED SENO HAD NOT BROUGHT MATTER TO LABOR DEPT'S ATTENTION UNTIL JUNE 29. HE SAID INVESTIGATION UNDER WAY AND EXPECTS RELEASE OF ALU DE-TAINEES SHORTLY PROVIDED THEIR ARREST SIMPLY DUE TO CONTINUING POLITICAL VENDETTA BETWEEN ALU AND DURANO, WHICH HE PRIVATELY SUSPECTS IS THE CASE.

3. IT APPARENT FROM INCIONG'S REMARKS THAT MENDOZA'S EFFORTS TO GET OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS (SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL

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PAGE 02 MANILA 07674 051244Z

GROUPS HAVE CABLED PROTESTS, OBVIOUSLY AT MENDOZA'S INSTIGATION) TO PRESSURE GOP BEFOR LABOR DEPT EVEN NOTIFIED

OF PROBLEM NOT WELCOMED HERE. HE SAID MENDOZA HAD GIVEN
MISLEADING IMPRESSION ABROAD THAT ARRESTS DUE TO PC
REACTION TO CURRENT ALU ORGANIZING ACTIVITIES.

4. BELIEVE OVERT AFL-CIO INTERVENTION ON BEHALF OF ALU AT
THIS POINT COUNTERPRODUCTIVE FOR BOTH ALU AND AFL-CIO'S OWN
INTERESTS. AFL-CIO DELEGATION ARRIVING JULY 6 WILL BE
BRIEFED BY AAFLI/MANILA AND EMBASSY AND WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY
TO DISCUSS MATTER INFORMALLY WITH LABOR SECRETARY OPLE
WHILE HERE.
HAMILTON

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